उत्तर प्रदेश में सीमेंट उद्योग द्वारा उत्पाद शुल्क का अपवंचन

4006. **चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह**: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अपवंचन प्रतिषेध महानिदेशालय केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क नई दिल्ली ने उत्तर प्रदेश में सीमेंट उद्योग द्वारा करोड़ों रुपए मूल्य के उत्पाद शुल्क अपवंचन का पता लगाने का कोई प्रयास किया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी निदेशालयवार ब्यौरा क्या है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम०वी० चन्द्रशेखर मूर्ति) : (क) और (ख) अपवंचन-रोधी महानिदेशालय, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क, नई दिल्ली की उत्तर प्रदेश में सीमेंट एककों द्वारा केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क का अपवंचन किये जाने के संबंध में कोई विशिष्टि आसूचना प्राप्त नहीं हुई । अतः अपवंचन-रोधी महानिदेशालय द्वारा उत्तर प्रदेश में सीमेंट एककों के विरुद्ध केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क अपवंचन के किसी मामले का पता नहीं लगाया गया है ।

Money deposited in foreign banks

4007. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some Indians have their money deposited in the Swiss Banks;

(b) if so, what is Government's estimate with regard to the quantum of deposited amount in the said Banks;

(c) whether there are Government's rules with regard with deposit of money in the Banks situated abroad; and

(d) if not, what action has been taken by Government against those depositors who have deposited their money in the Swiss Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) FERA, 73 prohibits resident Indians from maintaining accounts in a Bank abroad except with the permission of RBI. No estimate is possible when deposits are made clandestinely.

(d) As and when such an instance comes to the notice, the Directorate of Enforcement takes appropriate action (including penalty, prosecution) under the provisions of FERA.

Curbing inflation

4008. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present rate of inflation; and

(b) what steps have been taken to bring it down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) The rate of inflation based on wholesale Price Indices as on 13th March, 1993 was 6.8 per cent.

(b) Government have taken several steps both on the demand and supply sides to keep prices under check. These include strict control on fiscal deficit, a tight monetary policy, reduction in customs and excise duties and augmentation of domestic supplies through timely imports of essential commodities.

Tax exemptions sought by agarbathi industry

4009. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have studied in depth the representation of All India Agarbathi Manufacturers

Association pleading for tax exemptions both on inputs and finished products;

(b) if so, whether government would consider slashing import duties on aroma material used in the industry; and

(c) whether government would also consider allotment of land on long lease to grow forest based raw material for agarbathi industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Government have considered a representation dated 15.2.1993 from this Association There is, at present, no Central Excise duty on the finished product, Agarbathi.

(b) The import duty on chemicals including aromatic chemicals used in the industry has been reduced from 110 per cent to 85 per cent in this year's Budget. 'Jigat', an input for the agarbathi industry attracts a concessional import duty of 40 per cent.

(c) No proposal has been received in the Ministry of Environment and Forests for forest clearance for allotment of land on long lease to grow-forest based raw material for agarbathi industry.

Launching of SFAC

4010. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of the Small Farmers Agro-business Corporation mooted in the Finance Minister's budget speech last year;

(b) what are the policies and programmes envisaged in the Small Farmers Agro-business Corporation;

(c) whether it is a fact that due to the delay in launching Small Farmers Agro-business Corporation there is a loss in terms of potential employment nutrition and quality of life;

(d) if so, what are the reasons for the delay in launching Small Farmers Agro-business Corporation; and

(e) what steps Government have taken to launch SFAC and by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (e) Planning Commission has done the preparatory work to set up the Small Farmers' Agro-Business Consortium (SFAC). A Steering Committee has been set up by them to work out an action plan and the details of the organisational structure including the Articles of Association of the Small Farmers' Agro-Business Consortium. The main purpose of SFAC is to achieve the twin objectives of the 8th Five Year Plan, namely, employment generation diversification of agriculture and agro-based industries to attain self-sufficiency in food production and generate surplus for exports. The SFAC shall have three tier structure namely, Advisory Council at Apex Level, Governing Board consisting of banks, Government Corporations, private industries, scientific community and farmers and users Associations at the second tier and a third tier consisting of State/Project Level Organisations comprising farmers/beneficiaries user organisations. SFAC is proposed to be set up as a society under the Societies Registration Act.

Cases against Jagatjit Industries Limited

4011. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the industrial houses are indulging in wilful evasion of various Government taxes, thus affecting adversely the revenue collection;

(b) if so, what is the number of cases under Income Tax, Customs and